

"God is a spirit; and they that worship him must worship in spirit and in truth." Not our words but our spirit is the test of our worship.

The woman still wondering, tho she had received a blessed message and was pondering it, said, "I know that the Messiah cometh; and then he will tell us all things." For, tho the Samaritans expected a Messiah he was not to be from the Jews accordidg to the flesh. And then, the woman seeming ready for the wondrous message, Jesus replied, "I that speak unto thee am the Messiah." I have already told you all that is necessary for you to know in order to live right. Do that, then you shall receive more. Thus inquiringly and thus laying open the secrets of her heart Jesus preached at the close of a weary day the blessed Gospel to a poor, lost, sinful woman. And, she received the message. She had always thought a Jew was haughty and cold. But here was a Jew different from any she had ever seen. She had thought a man was only a being who sought the company of a woman to destroy her and all she held dear. But here was a man who was not only not cynical and cruel, but kind, sympathetic and with a passion to help even the worst of humanity. And in her wonder at the new found message and the new hope in her heart, she forgot her water pitcher and went off to the village to tell her companions in sin of the great Teacher and Savior. And thru her they were led to Christ.

#### Lesson Applied

1. Serve God in your common duties.
2. Embrace the opportunities that come to you.
3. Christ was never too tired to help a lost soul to salvation.
4. Tact and persistence is needed in dealing with sinners.
5. Argument is often the devil's instrument for keeping a soul from the truth.
6. Our worship must be spiritual, or it shall not be worship.
7. Honesty in religion is well pleasing to God.
8. A sinful person converted can do much to bring sinful companions to Christ.
9. The world wants sincerity and truth to bring it to God.

J. L. GILLIN.

### Church News

#### Pittsburg, Pa.

Altho there have not been many glowing reports recently from the Pittsburg church it has not been that we have had nothing to report. On the other hand the Lord has been good to us, he has blessed us in all of our weak undertakings.

Since the opening of the new year many precious souls have forsaken sin and come to Jesus. All of these have united in membership with us. There have been thirteen accessions to the church, and last Sunday we had two more conversions.

We are growing steadily; many of these new converts have been thinking seriously of

coming to Christ for months past. They have been battling with satan, but thanks to "our heavenly Father," they have won the victory in the name of Jesus. These converts have not all come in one evening, nor upon one invitation, but have been coming steadily.

Our pastor Brother Darling scarcely speaks to us from the pulpit but he tells us to pray that some soul will give their heart to Christ on the following Sabbath evening. I believe the brothers and sisters have been praying, for we have been enjoying the fruits of our prayers.

Why should we not feel thankful? By our recent reports the church is in better condition now than it has been for two or three years. We are in better condition spiritually, socially, numerically and financially.

Wednesday evening, Jan. 24, we celebrated our 10th anniversary. Elder D. J. Bole preached a very fitting sermon on that evening, and some very encouraging talks were given by some of the members. We had singing and prayer, and I think every one present felt benefited and went away with a new zeal and an intention to make "Our Next Anniversary," the greatest on the record. Our pastor was not present, having promised his services for the week to the church at Walk Chalk, who were, as he told us "Hungry for the word."

Our Sabbath-school and our Y. P. S. C. E. are both increasing and are larger and on a better basis now than they have been for a year. So we feel we have encouragement to offer from every source.

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#### From the Press Committee of the Ecumenical Conference

One of the special features of the Ecumenical Conference on Foreign Missions to be held in New York, in April, will be a missionary exhibit. Material is being gathered from every mission land in order to vividly present, thru the eye, the social and moral conditions of the peoples among whom the missionaries are laboring. It will be the endeavor also to make it as far as possible a progressive exhibit, showing the results of a hundred years of missionary effort. It will combine a library and a museum, and will comprise publications of all kinds,—books, Bibles, and magazines from the field, in English and many other languages; maps and charts, pictures, models, curios in dress and workmanship, and objects of religious worship, such as idols and fetiches,—all intended the actual surroundings of the missionary and his work.

Germany and England already have very complete Missionary Museums, but America is as yet deficient in this respect. In England these exhibits have proved not only helpful in arousing intelligent interest in missionary fields and work, but popular as well. Thus the church missionary society has fine collec-

tions which are sent about from city to city, where they are publicly displayed for a number of days, attracting in some cases as many as 50,000 visitors.

In order to secure the continuance of the exhibit of the coming conference as a permanent illustration of missionary endeavor, and also to furnish an opportunity for additions in years to come, a corporation has been formed, including Alexander Maitland, Esq., a member of the board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian church and manager of the New York Library; the Rev. Edwin M. Bliss, D. D., of the New York Independent; Harlan Page Beach, Esq., of the Student Volunteer Movement; the Rev. W. I. Haven, D. D., of the American Bible Society; Luther D. Wishard, Esq., representing the Forward Movement in the American Board, and the Rev. H. Allen Tupper, D. D.

#### Spiritual Gleanings

We commenced our meetings at Tiosa, Ind., Saturday evening, Jan. 13th, and had to close last night, the 28th, on account of my wife's sickness, and I returned home today. The meeting was so short we feel we had scarcely commenced. There were no accessions to the church and we were feeling that the meetings were almost a failure until yesterday evening in the social service we received many encouraging words from the brethren and sisters. One brother said it had given him much encouragement and he felt to live more devoted, and a sister said the meetings had drawn her nearer to Christ and gave her many things to think about. A young sister said, "Oh, these meetings have been a feast to my soul." So we feel the church is strengthened and we hope some who never professed His name have been made to think, yea, we feel some were almost persuaded. So believing all things work together for good, we say, praise His holy name. Brethren, pray for us.

D. A. HOPKINS.

#### Pacific Items

I do not think we have much news for this letter which would interest the brotherhood greatly so we will make it a brief one.

We have officiated at two very pretty weddings since our last letter. The first one was on Dec. 27, at the home of Brother and Sister Doty, in the Vernalis congregation. Upon that occasion brother Andrew Flory, of Lemoore, and sister Constance Doty were joined in marriage. Both are estimable young people and I am confident such a union will have God's blessing. The other wedding referred to was on Jan. 25, when brother Frank Smith and sister Ora Osborn, both of the Atwater church, were joined in holy wedlock. These also are splendid young people and their union cannot fail to have the Father's benediction.

Brother George Ronk recently filled appointments for me at Lathrop and E Union, to the entire satisfaction of all. You will, no doubt, hear splendid things of him later